

Pot would have continued to have shot fresh Nitre much longer, if I had not had urgent Use for it, to make other Experiments in. However, it is to be observed, that I had already gathered more Nitre than I put into the Pot at first; though, as I said before, for what I could perceive, I had taken all or near all the Nitre that I first put in together with the Sulphur, out of the Pot in a Lump. Hence we may have some Conceptions of the Nature of mineral Earths, and how they grow and increase, when once impregnated with the Seeds of a Mineral. This likewise is a Proof of the Quantity of nitrous Particles with which the Air abounds, since the large Quantity of Nitre which I collected out of the Pot, when left empty upon the Shelf, could be supplied by the Air only.

N. B. These three Experiments are all that I could save intire out of a great Number which were sent to the Hon. Mr. *Boyle*, in Answer to a Letter from him to Mr. *John Clayton*, containing 17 *Quære's*.

ROBERT CORKE.

VII. *Extract of a Letter from John Ratty, M. D. to Dr. Mortimer, Secr. R. S. concerning the Poison of Laurel-Water.*

Dear Doctor,

Dublin, May 17. 1732.

I Received thine of *Feb. 15.* with the *Transactions* N^o 418 and 420. giving an Account of the Experiments upon *Laurel-Water*. I wish your Experiments

ments with the Milk, had more fully determin'd and ascertain'd it to be an Antidote, than they have yet done. I am inform'd by Dr. ——— that some Apothecaries in *England*, being us'd to sophisticate *Black-Cherry-Water* with *Laurel-Leaves*, will not be persuaded, that this is a Poison on human Bodies, notwithstanding our few Instances. I can now confirm that it really is so by this Story, which thou mayst be assured of the Truth of.

At *Lisminy* in *Westmeath*, a Girl of 18 Years old, very well and healthy, took a Quantity, less than two Spoonfuls, of the first Runnings of the *Simple Water of Laurel-Leaves*; whereupon within half a Minute she fell down, was convulsed, foamed at the Mouth, and died in a short time, nor was there any Swelling on her Body.

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N. B. The *Philosophical Transactions* being three Years behind-hand in regard of Time, we shall skip over 10 Numbers, and commence the *Transactions* for the current Year 1742. and the XLII^d Volume with N^o 462. and so continue to publish the Papers for the future in the precise Order of the Times of their being read before the *Royal Society*; in the mean time this XLIIth Volume, or the *Transactions* from N^o 452. to 462. shall be filled up with all possible Speed.